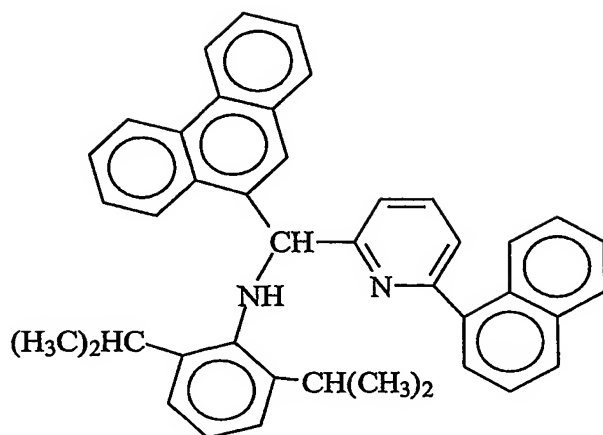
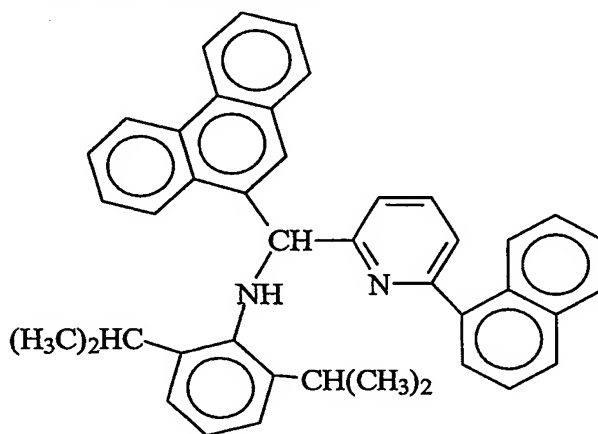


CLAIMS

1. A process for the preparation of a Group 4 metal hydrocarbyl complex comprising a monovalent or divalent Lewis base ligand the steps of the process comprising contacting a Group 4 metal amide with a neutral source of a monovalent or divalent, Lewis
5 base ligand group and a Lewis acid hydrocarbylating agent under conditions to form the Group 4 metal hydrocarbyl complex.
2. The process of claim 1 wherein the Group 4 metal amide corresponds to the formula, $M(NR_2)_mX_n$,
wherein M is a Group 4 metal;
10 R independently in each occurrence is a C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl group, a C_{1-20} halohydrocarbyl group, or two R groups are joined together thereby forming a divalent derivative;
X is an anionic ligand of up to 20 atoms not counting hydrogen or two X groups are joined together thereby forming a divalent derivative;
15 m is an integer from 1 to 4; and
n is an integer equal to 4-m.
3. A process according to claim 2 wherein each X group is hydride, halide, or a hydrocarbyl-, silyl-, hydrocarbyloxy- or siloxy- group of up to 10 atoms
4. A process according to claim 3 wherein each X is chloride or methyl.
- 20 5. A process according to any one of claims 1-4 wherein M is hafnium.
6. A process according to any one of claims 1-4 wherein the Group 4 metal amide is a Group 4 metal tetrakis(N,N-dihydrocarbyl)amide.
7. A process according to claim 6 wherein the Group 4 metal amide is a Group 4 metal tetrakis(N,N-dimethyl)amide.
- 25 8. A process according to claim 8 wherein the Group 4 metal amide is hafnium tetrakis(N,N-dimethyl)amide.
9. A process according to any one of claims 1-4 wherein the neutral source of a monovalent or divalent, Lewis base ligand group is:



10. A process according to claim 5 wherein the neutral source of a monovalent or divalent, Lewis base ligand group is:



- 5 11. A process according to any one of claims 1-4 wherein the Lewis acid hydrocarbylating agent is employed in excess based on quantity of Group 4 metal amide.
12. A process according to claim 11 wherein the Lewis acid hydrocarbylating agent is trimethylaluminum.
13. A process according to claim 5 wherein the Lewis acid hydrocarbylating agent is employed in excess based on quantity of Group 4 metal amide.
- 10 14. A process according to claim 13 wherein the Lewis acid hydrocarbylating agent is trimethylaluminum.